

AIR

MGLA-7382

Chief, Foreign Division M  
Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

19 July 1951

Operational

UJ DRACO/UTILITY's Visit

1. In view of the fact that [ ] GLOBKE discussions will probably not be underway until early September and for other reasons, we propose to set UTILITY's departure date back to coincide with Group III on or about 22 September.

2. Thus far I have not attempted to work out an agenda for UTILITY and would, in fact, be perfectly willing to leave that up to you. Complicating it will be his often repeated desire to see Boker, Waldman, Hilger et al. Aside from that he would like to travel the length of the country to San Francisco and back.

3. I have had no reaction to our MGLA-6789 outlining UTILITY's views on the trip. However, it seems to me that we might gain something by letting UTILITY see some of his old friends and sitting in on the conversations.

4. Another matter is whether to include UTILITY with Group III for his westward junket. With HOEBEL this would bring the group to six without considering the escort. Also there may be possible advantages in my spending several weeks with UTILITY.

5. I should be in Washington prior to 1 September. If it is convenient to do so, I suggest we discuss the handling of UTILITY upon my arrival. In any case, we are tentatively planning on putting him on the plane at Rhein/Main on 22 September.

6. UTILITY feels that his cover story should be that of his working business cover, i.e., international patents.

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James Critchfield's Comments on Gehlen's Visit to the U.S.A.

1. At this point the chances that ZIPPER will emerge as a strong, centralized German Intelligence Service are better than they have been at any time since C.I.A. took over the management of the project. I think it is reasonably safe to estimate that Reinhard Gehlen will survive as a dominant figure in German affairs for some time to come. Thus, I think it would be politically inept of us to equivocate in the treatment we give Gehlen in the United States simply because of our reservations about him.

2. Gehlen will be somewhat difficult to control on this trip. He has stated on numerous occasions that he hopes he will have the opportunity to shake hands with General Walter B. Smith. If he does not meet General Smith, he will consider it a brush-off. On his last trip to Spain Gehlen was received by General Vigon, Chief of Staff of the Spanish Army, and on several occasions he has met the heads of the French, Swiss, Danish, and Norwegian Intelligence Services.

3. Gehlen has also stated that he hopes he will have some free time in New York where he would like to see John Boker, Eric Warburg, and Eric Waldman.

Note: Boker and Warburg are New York businessmen with numerous contacts in Germany. Boker escorted Gehlen and members of his staff to the United States in 1945 and has remained in contact with Gehlen during the past few years. In October 1950 Warburg arranged in Germany a dinner for Gehlen with Mr. McCloy. His device in making the arrangements through an officer of RICOG turned out to be embarrassing for ourselves and Mr. McCloy. Waldman is a former Army officer who was very closely associated with the ZIPPER operation while it was under Army control.

4. Gehlen will, of course, measure the success of his trip in terms of how many important people he meets and how many professional conversations he can participate in. He would unquestionably like to see something of our Armed Forces, including the Pentagon.

5. I think Gehlen's trip should be limited to fourteen days, with no more than four or five days in the Washington-New York area.

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